

REMARKS

In the Official Action dated July 26, 2006, the specification was objected to for containing certain incorrect reference numerals. The drawings were objected to for including reference numerals not mentioned in the description. Claims 1-3, 5, 7, and 9-10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 as allegedly anticipated by U.S. Pat. No. 5,942,344 (Lehmeier). Claims 6, 8, and 11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as allegedly obvious over Lehmeier in view of U.S. Pat. No. 5,170,124 (Blair).

Please amend the specification and claims as set forth above. The various objections and rejections in the Official Action are addressed in detail below.

Objections to the Specification and Drawings

In response the objections to the specification, paragraphs 0043, 0044, 0045, 0048, and 0049 are amended to delete incorrect reference numerals and insert correct numerals per the Examiner's suggestions.

In response the objections to the drawings, paragraphs 0051, 0058, and 0062 are amended to include references to numerals formerly included in the drawings but not referenced in the specification. No new matter is added. Applicants thank the Examiner for his diligent and thorough review of the specification in this regard.

Rejection of Claims 1-3, 5, 7, and 9-10 Under 35 U.S.C. 102

Claims 1-3, 5, 7, and 9-10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 as allegedly anticipated by U.S. Pat. No. 5,942,344 (Lehmeier). Independent claim 1 is amended as set forth above. As amended, claim 1 contains numerous elements not found in Lehmeier, Blair, or the other references of record.

In particular, claim 1 is directed to a system that includes a smart controller with a host interface for communications between said smart controller and a consumer electronic device that is powered by the fuel cell. Applicants believe that such a smart controller is not to be found in the references of record, especially when considered in combination with the other elements specified in claim 1.

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Claims 2, 3, 5, 7, 9, and 10 all depend from claim 1, and are therefore considered allowable for the same reasons.


Rejection of Claims 6, 8, and 11 Under 35 U.S.C. 103(a)

Claims 6, 8, and 11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as allegedly obvious over Lehmeier in view of U.S. Pat. No. 5,170,124 (Blair). Claims 6, 8, and 11 all depend from claim 1, and are therefore considered allowable for the same reasons as provided above with regard to claims 1-3, 5, 7, and 9-10.

Conclusion

Applicant would like to thank the Examiner for his thorough work in this matter and looks forward to resolving any further issues as deemed appropriate. Applicant's representative, Nathaniel Ari Long, can be reached at (206) 332-1385.

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